

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 078363

70

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 /076 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:TSBROOKS:MFR
APPROVED BY EA/PRCM:OVARMSRONG
EA/P:AHROSEN (DRAFT)

----- 098985

P 172221Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 078363

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH

SUBJECT: PRESS STORY ON AMBASSADOR BRUCE

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT APRIL 17 UPI STORY FILED BY CHARLES SMITH FROM HONG KONG. DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, WHEN QUERIED BY PRESS, HAVE BEEN SAYING WE HAVE NO INFORMATION TO CONFIRM THE SPECULATIVE STORY.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

U.S. AMBASSADOR DAVID BRUCE IS FRUSTRATED AND UNHAPPY IN PEKING AND WANTS TO LEAVE AS SOON AS HE CAN, RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID TODAY.

THE SOURCES SAID BRUCE'S DESIRE TO LEAVE IS NOT NECESSARILY RELATED TO ANY DECLINE IN SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH THERE DEFINITELY HAS BEEN A "COOLING" OF TIES IN RECENT MONTHS.

BRUCE WANTS TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, ACCORDING TO THE WELL-INFORMED SOURCES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 078363

THE SOURCES SAID ONE REASON IS HIS AGE--HE IS 76. THEY

SAID IT WAS UNDERSTOOD HIS STAY IN PEKING WOULD BE SHORT

WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON CALLED HIM OUT OF RETIREMENT LAST YEAR TO TAKE THE POST.

THE SOURCES SAID BRUCE IS ALSO FINDING THE CHINESE CAPITAL TOO DULL AND RESTRICTIVE. ONE DIPLOMAT QUOTED HIM AS SAYING PEKING IS "NOT HIS KIND OF TOWN."

MORE IMPORTANT THAN THESE PERSONAL REASONS IS THE MATTER OF PROFESSIONAL PRIDE, ACCORDING TO WELL-PLACED DIPLOMATS IN BOTH WASHINGTON AND PEKING.

BRUCE FEELS HIS PRESENCE IN PEKING IS UNNECESSARY NOW, PARTICULARLY SINCE HE HAS NO ACCESS TO TOP CHINESE LEADERS.

SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER HAS HANDLED ALL THE TOP-LEVEL DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINESE LEADERS--MAINLY COMMUNIST PARTY CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG AND PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI. INDICATIONS ARE HE WILL KEEP DOING SO.

THE SOURCES SAID BRUCE FEELS HIS DEPUTIES--JOHN HOLDRIDGE AND ALFRED S. JENKINS--COULD, AND SHOULD, HANDLE THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH LOW-LEVEL OFFICIALS. THEY ARE CHINA SPECIALISTS AND HE IS NOT.

IN ADDITION TO HIS LACK OF ACCESS TO TOP CHINESE LEADERS, BRUCE HAS ALSO BEEN CUT OUT OF THE FORMAL DIPLOMATIC SOCIAL CIRCLE SINCE ARRIVING IN PEKING LAST MAY.

BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT HAVE A FULL-FLEDGED EMBASSY, HE AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE LIAISON OFFICE DO NOT RECEIVE INVITATIONS TO FORMAL DIPLOMATIC FUNCTIONS. END TEXT. KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE078363
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TSBROOKS:MFR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740089-0455
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740435/aaaabfil.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2002 by BryanSD>; APPROVED <23 DEC 2002 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS STORY ON AMBASSADOR BRUCE
TAGS: PFOR, CH, US, (BRUCE)
To: PEKING
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005